



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. TOTAL ARMY PERSONNEL COMMAND
ALEXANDRIA VA
22332-0471



September 19, 2002

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Military Awards Branch

Honorable Tim Johnson
United States Senate
324 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Johnson:

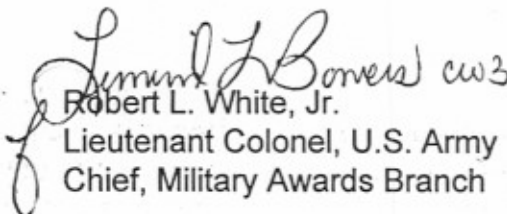
This is in response to your letter of September 5, 2002, concerning a current recommendation for upgrade of the late Master Sergeant Woodrow W. Keeble's award of the Distinguished Service Cross to the Medal of Honor. Your letter was forwarded to this office, the proponent for the Army's Awards and Decorations Program, for reply.

On May 17, 2002, a United States Representative in Congress from the State of South Dakota referred a recommendation to the Department of the Army for upgrade of the late Master Sergeant Keeble's award of the Distinguished Service Cross to a posthumous award of the Medal of Honor.

On September 17, 2002, the Army Decorations Board reviewed the recommendation to posthumously award the Medal of Honor to the late Master Sergeant Keeble for his heroic actions during the Korean War. The Board's recommendation is being reviewed by the Senior Army Decorations Board and will be staffed to Department of the Army Leadership for final decision. Your supportive letter with attached documentation has been forwarded to the Senior Army Decorations Board for their consideration. We will inform you of the final decision as soon as it is determined.

Thank you for your interest in the Army's Awards Program. We appreciate your support of our veterans and the men and women serving in America's Army today.

Sincerely,


Robert L. White, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army
Chief, Military Awards Branch